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*To the Clergy and Laity
of the Diocese of New-York :*

DEAR BRETHREN,

The President of the United States having recommended that the last Thursday in November next be set apart and observed as a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer throughout the United States, the following Services are set forth to be used in the Churches of this Diocese on that day. The Litany is appointed to be said for reasons which, it is believed, will be apparent to all.


Commending you to the Divine Protection and Blessing, I remain, dear Brethren, most truly and affectionately,

Your Brother in Christ,

HORATIO POTTER,

Bishop of New-York.

New-York, October 20, 1863.



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A F O R M

OF

Prayer and Thanksgiving

TO ALMIGHTY GOD,

*For the fruits of the earth, and all the other blessings of his merciful providence; to be used in the Diocese of New-York, on THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A. D. 1863, being the day set apart by THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, as a day of Thanksgiving and Prayer.**

¶ *The Service shall be as usual, except where it is hereby otherwise appointed.*

¶ *The Sentences at the beginning of Morning Prayer shall be the following :*

* This Office is that contained in the Book of Common Prayer, with alterations and additions adapted to the circumstances of this year.

HONOR the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase; so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. *Prov.* iii. 9, 10.

The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens: by his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew. *Prov.* iii. 19, 20.

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deut.* xxxiii. 27.

Israel then shall dwell in safety alone; the fountain of Jacob shall be upon the land of corn and of wine, also his heaven shall drop down dew. *Deut.* xxxiii. 28.

Happy art thou, O Israel; who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! *Deut.* xxxiii. 29.

To the LORD our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us. *Dan.* ix. 9, 10.

I will arise, and go to my father, and will

say unto him; Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. *St. Luke xv. 18, 19.*

¶ *Instead of, O come let us sing, &c., the following shall be said or sung :*

PRAISE ye the Lord : for it is good to sing praises *unto our God* : for it is *pleasant, and praise is comely.*

The Lord doth build up *Je-rusalem* : he gathereth together the *outcasts of Israel.*

He healeth those that are *broken in heart* : and *bindeth up their wounds.*

He covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth *rain for the earth* : he maketh the grass to *grow upon the mountains.*

He giveth to the *beast his food* : and to the *young ravens which cry.*

Praise the Lord, *O Jerusalem* : Praise *thy God, O Sion.*

For he hath strengthened the *bars of thy gates* : he hath *blessed thy children within thee.*

He maketh peace *in thy borders* : and filleth thee with the *finest of the wheat.*

¶ *Then shall be said or sung* PSALMS CIV. and CXLV. *from* THE PSALTER.

¶ *The First Lesson shall be* Deuteronomy viii., *and the Second Lesson shall be* 1 Thessalonians v. 12 to 24. *There is no such chapter in the Bible*

¶ *After the First Lesson shall be said or sung the Hymn* Te Deum Laudamus; *and after the Second Lesson, Jubilate Deo.*

¶ *The LITANY shall be said, with the omission of the Discretionary Part thereof.*

¶ *In the end of the Litany, immediately before the General Thanksgiving, shall be said the following Prayers :*

O MOST powerful and glorious Lord God, the Lord of Hosts, that rulest and commandest all things: Thou sittest in the Throne judging right, and therefore we make our appeal to Thy Divine Majesty, in this our trouble, that Thou wouldst take the cause into Thine own hand. Stir up Thy strength, O Lord, and come and help us. Save and defend our country in this its hour of peril. Revive in all hearts a spirit of devotion to the public good. Let Thy divine Protection and Guidance be over all who serve in Council or in the Field; and so rule their hearts and strengthen their hands that they may preserve to us the goodly heritage which Thou gavest unto our Fathers. Mercifully forgive the grievous sins which have drawn Thy judgments upon us. Help us to look to Thee in all our troubles and adversities, and at last to rejoice in the greatness of Thy Salvation; through the merits and mediation of our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O ETERNAL GOD and Heavenly Father, the Aid of all who need, the Helper of all who flee to Thee for succor: we commend to Thy Almighty protection all those Thy servants now gone forth in our defence, for whose preservation amid the périls of war our prayers are desired. Guard them, we beseech Thee, from the dangers that beset their way, from sickness, from the violence of enemies, and from every evil to which they may be exposed. Give them comfort and sure confidence in Thee; and of Thy great goodness restore them to us in due time, in peace and safety, with a grateful sense of Thy mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *And this, at the discretion of the Minister :*

O MERCIFUL GOD and Heavenly Father, who hast taught us, in Thy holy Word, that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men; look with pity, we beseech

Thee, upon the sorrows of Thy servants, for whom our prayers are desired. In thy wisdom Thou hast seen fit to visit them with trouble, and to bring distress upon them. Remember them, O Lord, in mercy; sanctify Thy fatherly correction to them; endue their souls with patience under their affliction, and with resignation to Thy blessed will; comfort them with a sense of Thy goodness; lift up Thy countenance upon them, and give them peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *After the General Thanksgiving shall be said this, which followeth :*

MOST gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down their dew ; We yield Thee unfeigned thanks and praise, as for all Thy mercies, so especially for the returns of seed-time and harvest, and for crowning the year with Thy goodness, in the increase of the ground, and the gathering in of the fruits thereof. And, we beseech Thee, give us a just sense of this great mercy ; such as may appear in our lives, by an humble, holy and obedient walking before Thee all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord ; to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ *And this.*

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the Sovereign Commander of all the World, in whose hand is power and might, which none is able to withstand ; we bless and magnify Thy great and glorious Name for the success hitherto vouchsafed to our efforts in defence of our Country,

the whole glory whereof we ascribe to Thee, who art the only Giver of Victory. And, we beseech Thee, give us grace to improve these, and all other Thy great mercies to Thy glory, the advancement of Thy Gospel, the honor of our Country, and, as much as in us lieth, to the good of all Mankind. Continue, we pray Thee, this Thy goodness to us ; that we, being saved by Thy mighty power, may evermore live in Thy faith and fear, and to Thy glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

¶ *Morning Prayer and the Litany being ended, there shall be sung from the Selection of the Psalms in Metre, Selection 120, Verses 1, 2, 3, 4.*

Or Selection 124, Verses 1, 2, 3, 5.

¶ *In the Communion Service, the Collects, the Epistle, and the Gospel, shall be as follows :*

The Collects.

O MOST merciful Father, who hast blessed the labors of the husbandman in the returns of the fruits of the earth ; We give Thee humble and hearty thanks for this Thy bounty ; beseeching Thee to continue Thy loving kindness to us ; that our land may still yield her increase, to Thy glory and our comfort, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Thy right hand to help and defend us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

STIR up, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the wills of Thy faithful people ; that they plentifully bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by Thee be plentifully rewarded, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle. St. James i. 16.

DO not err, my beloved brethren: every good gift and every perfect gift is from above; and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of His own will begat He us of the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore, lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the ingrafted word, which is able to save your souls. Be ye doers of the word; and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass; for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man

among you seem to be religious, and bridled his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

The Gospel. St. Matt. v. 43.

YE have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? Or if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

¶ *Then shall be sung the 152d Hymn, Verses
1, 2, 3, 5, 6.*

Or Hymn 203 :

Or an Anthem, at the discretion of the Minister.

¶ *Immediately before the Benediction, may be
said or sung, Gloria in Excelsis.*

NOTE.—The Alms of the People should be received at this Service for the Aged and Infirm Clergy of the Diocese; unless it should be deemed expedient to postpone the Canonical Collection in their behalf to another day.

THE ORDER FOR EVENING PRAYER.

To be used in Churches where Evening Prayer
is said.

- ¶ *The Service shall be as usual, except where it is hereby otherwise appointed.*
- ¶ *The Sentences at the beginning of Evening Prayer shall be the same as prescribed for Morning Prayer.*
- ¶ *Instead of the Portion of Psalms for the day of the month, Psalms xxxiii., cxlvi. and cl. shall be said or sung.*
- ¶ *The First Lesson shall be Deuteronomy vi. and the Second Lesson shall be Romans xiii.*
- ¶ *Instead of the Collect for the day, shall be said the Collects appointed in the Morning Service.*
- ¶ *Before and after the General Thanksgiving, shall be said the Prayers and Thanksgivings appointed to be there used at Morning Prayer.*